United Nations A/61/777

General Assembly

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Sixty-first session
Agenda item 29
Effects of atomic radiation

Note verbale dated 27 February 2007 from the Permanent Mission of Finland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

The Permanent Mission of Finland to the United Nations presents its compliments to the President of the General Assembly and, with reference to paragraph 14 of General Assembly resolution 61/109 on the effects of atomic radiation, has the honour to inform you that Finland is interested in becoming a member of the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation.

07-25839 (E) 060307

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Agenda item 29
Effects of atomic radiation

Letter dated 27 February 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 61/109 on the effects of atomic radiation, adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 2006, and in accordance with paragraph 14 of that resolution, I have the honour to inform you that the Republic of Korea desires to join the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation.

(*Signed*) **Oh** Joon
Deputy Permanent Representative
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

07-25833 (E) 060307

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Sixty first session
Agenda item 27
Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Letter dated 2 March 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit the statement of the Office of the State Minister of Georgia for Conflict Resolution dated 2 March 2007, regarding the fact that so-called Abkhaz law enforcement units opened fire at a peaceful public demonstration in the conflict zone of Abkhazia, Georgia, on 1 March 2007 (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the sixty-first session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 27.

(*Signed*) Irakli **Alasania**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

07-26044 (E) 080307

Annex to the letter dated 2 March 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement of the Office of the State Minister of Georgia for Conflict Resolution

On 1 March 2007, so-called Abkhazian law enforcement units, while situated in the zone controlled by the Commonwealth of Independent States peacekeeping force between checkpoints N 202 and 306, opened fire at a peaceful public demonstration of both Georgian and Abkhaz groups of local students, who were expressing their opinion with regard to the illegitimate elections of 4 March to the de facto Parliament and violent aggressive policy of the separatist regime. As a result, three peaceful protesters were kidnapped: Ghachava, Rogava and Karshia. These persons are still illegally detained and, according to the Abkhaz side, will not be released any time soon.

The above-mentioned actions were aimed against any form of free expression of opinion; they also serve as a tool to deter rapprochement between the Abkhaz and Georgian societies, and hinder the confidence-building process. All of the above directly oppose peaceful initiatives proposed by the Government of Georgia and once again clearly demonstrate the separatist regime's destructive approach towards the peace process.

The Office of the State Minister expresses its strongest protest with respect to such provocation. This incident, in the lower zone of Gali district, once more underlines the intimidating policy towards the local population, which is based on the practice of reiterating gross violations of human rights and often is freely conducted because of the ineffectiveness of CIS peacekeepers.

Such developments once again underline the necessity to activate the United Nations civilian police component and introduce the branches of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) based in Sukhumi and United Nations human rights protection offices in Gali region.

The Abkhaz side should be aware that such actions seriously damage preliminary agreement on continuation of dialogue, which is a cornerstone of confidence-building and peaceful settlement of the conflict.

The Office of the State Minister for Conflict Resolution has forwarded a relevant letter to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General to Georgia, Jean Arnault. We also address OSCE, the Council of Europe and the Group of Friends involved in the settlement of the conflict, as well as international organizations operating in Georgia, to use any means available for the immediate and unconditional liberation of imprisoned persons.

United Nations A/61/780

General Assembly

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8 March 2007

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Sixty-first session
Agenda item 114
Multilingualism

Letter dated 7 March 2007 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly

I would be grateful if the attached letter from the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 114.

(*Signed*) **Ban** Ki-moon

07-26404 (E) 080307

Annex

Letter dated 26 February 2007 from the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to the Secretary-General

It is my pleasure to inform you of the support that UNESCO member States have given to the proposal, submitted by the Government of Austria to the General Conference at its thirty-third session (October 2005), to proclaim the year 2008 International Year of Languages.

This support is expressed in General Conference resolution 33C/51, which has been incorporated into the UNESCO Approved Programme and Budget 2006-2007 (33 C/5, para. 05120; see enclosure) and which authorizes me to request the United Nations General Assembly to proclaim 2008 International Year of Languages.

We understand that a number of Member States are currently working to prepare a draft resolution calling for such a proclamation. Should the General Assembly decide to proclaim 2008 International Year of Languages, I wish to assure you that UNESCO stands ready to take on the role and responsibility of lead agency for this important initiative.

UNESCO considers languages and multilingualism cornerstones of the world's cultural diversity and essential conditions for sustainable development in all domains, including cyberspace, education systems, cultural expressions and exchanges, at the international, regional and national levels. To attain this objective, UNESCO's strategy is focused on enhancing and preserving linguistic diversity worldwide and on promoting the recognition of the importance of languages and linguistic diversity in all UNESCO policies and fields of action.

I would be grateful if this letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly for the information of Member States.

(*Signed*) Koïchiro **Matsuura**

Enclosure

Relevant provisions of UNESCO General Conference resolution 33C/51, which has been incorporated into the UNESCO Approved Programme and Budget 2006-2007 (33 C/5, para. 05120)

The General Conference ...

Authorizes the Director-General:

(a) to implement the corresponding plan of action in order to:

(i) foster community access through support for the development of institutional and human capacities in the field of communication and information;

(ii) strengthen capacities of information and media professionals and related training institutions, in particular through new training delivery methods and networking, especially in developing countries and countries in transition;

(iii) foster community-centred development and change by devising strategies and projects to enhance access to information and communication, thereby contributing to empowerment and poverty reduction;

(iv) support the preservation of documentary and audio-visual heritage across all media, inter alia, through the Memory of the World Programme by giving specific recognition to the role of libraries and archives in supporting capacity-building programmes aimed at conservation, preservation and restoration of this heritage, and encourage the application of the provisions of the Charter on the Preservation of Digital Heritage;

(v) promote the expression of pluralism and cultural and linguistic diversity in the media and global information networks, as well as the role of the media in creating dialogue among cultures and civilizations as well as peoples;

(vi) foster understanding among peoples and nations by promoting the production and exchange of pluralist content in traditional and new media which reflects cultural diversity and helps to counter stereotypes;

(vii) request the United Nations General Assembly to proclaim the year 2008 International Year of Languages;

(b) to allocate for this purpose an amount of $6,375,800 for programme costs and $104,700 for indirect programme costs at Headquarters.

United Nations A/61/781–S/2007/124

General Assembly
Security Council

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Original: Arabic

General Assembly
Sixty-first session
Agenda item 13
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Sixty-second year

Identical letters dated 5 March 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

Pursuant to our previous letters nos. 464, 520 and 579, and on instructions from my Government, I transmit to you herewith a statistical table of Israeli violations of Lebanese territory, airspace and regional waters during the month of February 2007 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 13, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Caroline **Ziade**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

07-26236 (E) 090307 120307

Annex to the identical letters dated 5 March 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statistical table showing Israeli violations during February 2007

Air violations					*Land violations*				
Military jet	*Reconnaissance*	*Helicopter*	*Total*	*Sea violations*	*Military acts of aggression*	*Field violations*	*Breaches*	*Total*	*Previous month's total*
				Crossing of territorial waters, and firing of automatic-weapons rounds, flares and flare shells over territorial waters	Air raids, artillery shelling, shelling of military outposts and important positions, attacks on and killing of civilians	Gunfire, launching of flare bombs, dropping of artillery shells and poison-gas balloons, infiltration and crossing of international borders	Threats and display of weapons, bulldozing of soil, laying of barbed wire and setting up of installations inside Lebanese territory		
4	27	2	33	2	—	7	3	45	77